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FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.			
02/22/2000	Anthony D Minervini	804RP746	804RP746 2137			
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BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC		EASTHOM	EASTHOM, KARL D			
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DATE MAILED: 10/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 2832

circuit protection devices, where one has certain advantages such as reduced size, and polymer devices need not be sintered as ceramics. As to claim 7, ceramic, dielectric or other material is disclosed at the top of col. 8 of McGuire, and where copper is disclosed for the electrodes at col. 5, lines 5-12, the insulating layer is deemed a copper clad PC board since it can be used as a PC board and no other printed circuits are claimed. It would have been obvious to replace the well known equivalent materials in the electrical resistor arts for each other where the references each disclose chip thermistors. In claim 11, the third substrate is 17 on the bottom. As to claims 14-15, the multiple layer foils are disclosed as a known electrode for polymers in McGuire as 100,150,180 for example, so that it would have been obvious to employ the materials that are known to be compatible with metal foils. In claim 13, the current flows from one end termination 14 to end termination 14, via PTC element 11 and electrode 13 as claimed. In claim 11, the thermistors are in parallel.

- 4. Claims 16, 18-32 and 38-42 are allowed.
- 5. Applicant's arguments filed 1/6/03 have been considered but they are persuasive only as to Sunahara. That is particularly, the Sunahara insulative supporting substrates are all connected together via each other as argued and so the two-three germane substrates of the claims are not separate as claimed. Applicant argues there is no suggestion for replacing ceramic PTC materials for polymer PTC materials. This is not correct. The two materials are known replacements for one another as noted above in the art applied. Applicant has argued with respect t to JP 9-199302. This is due to an error by the examiner, corrected above, whereat Fig. 6 of JP 9-266105, is now cited as originally intended.

Office Action Summary    Commonstration	- ·		Application No.		Applicant(s)				
## Deathor Summary  ## The MAILING DATE   fthis communication appears   Art Unit   2832	in '		09/510,116		MINERVINI ET AL.				
Peri d for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALINKO DATE of this communication appears in the cover sheet with the corresp indence address  Peri d for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALINKO DATE of THIS COMMUNICATION.  Editorations of time may be arrelable under the provisions of 37 CRR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a nept be timely fixed after 31(c) (4) (MONTHS from the maining date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above a less than thirty (50) days, a reply writin the databory minimum of thing (30) days, with considered fixed, after 31(c) (4) (MONTHS from the maining date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above a less than the provision of 37 CRR 1.136(a).  If the period for reply specified above a less than the provision of 37 CRR 1.136(a).  If the period for reply specified above a less than the provision of 37 CRR 1.136(a).  If the period for reply specified above a less than the provision of 37 CRR 1.136(a).  Failure to reply within the side of second part of the mailing date of this communication, seven if timely filed, may reduce any secure of particle management of the second part of the mailing date of this communication, seven if timely filed, may reduce any secure of particles and seven the second particles.  Applicant this action is FINAL.  2) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Exparte Quayle, 1, 1935 C.D. 11, 1453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) Claim(s) 15.78, 10.16 and 18-42 is/are pending in the application.  5) Claim(s) 16, 18-32, and 38-42 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 15, 178, and 10.15 is/are rejected.  7) Claim(s) 16, 18-32, and 38-42 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 15, 178, and 10.15 is/are very seventh of the provision of the provision and particles of the provision of the provision of the provision of the pro									
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- 1. This action replaces withdraws the finality and replaces the Final Rejection of 9/18/03 in its entirety, with a new statutory period, due to remarks made by applicant's representative Peter Law on about 9/30/03 wherein he argued persuasively that the error of citing the wrong reference (JP'302) in the Examiner's prior action could not have been foreseen by applicant, since Fig. 8 in the JP'302 prior has the same reference numerals referred to by the Examiner as Fig. 6 in the JP'105 prior art, and Mr. Law reasonably assumed it was Fig. 8 of JP'302, and not Fig. 6 of '105, that the Examiner intended but incorrectly identified as Fig. 6 of JP'302. The Examiner apologizes to applicant and Mr. Law for the error and inconvenience resulting therefrom.
- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 7-8, and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 9-266105, in view of Niihara et al. (JP 6-69416), or McGuire et al. '403. JP '105 discloses the claimed invention at the abstract and Fig 6, except the PTC thermistor elements being polymer. JP '105 discloses insulating substrates 16, 17 with PTC elements 11, and wrap around electrodes 23. Niihara discloses circuit mounting of polymer PTC resistors and discloses the latter are useful for replacing ceramic thermistors such as that of Sunuhara at par. 16 in order to from a reduced size.

McGuire discloses that ceramic and polymer thermistor devices are well known for current protection at col. 1, the latter useful in order to reduce the size. It would have been obvious to substitute one well known material for another where both are PTC

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl D Easthom whose telephone number is 703 308-3306. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 5:30AM-4:00PM. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 308-7722 for regular communications and 703 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Karl D Easthom Primary Examiner Art Unit 2832

KDE October 8, 2003